GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3462
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
CONSTRUCTION OF TRANSMISSION TOWERS BY POWERGRID CORPORATION
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Grid Corporation has built transmission towers across rivers all over the country;

(b) if so, whether objections have been raised in different areas to this interference with the free flow of rivers;

(c) whether the Power Grid Corporation consulted any agency of Government on the safety measures to be taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (d) : In accordance with the information received from POWERGRID, every effort is made by them to see that transmission towers are placed on the firm banks of the river falling in the route of the transmission lines and they are not constructed in the river bed. However, in a few cases, where the width of the river is more than 1000 meter, mid- stream towers are provided on pile or well foundation at every 1000 meter interval as against the large number of piers (generally at every 50 meter interval) over well foundations for road and railway bridges. Shapes of the foundations are normally circular to provide free flow of water. These tower foundations, which are comparatively small structures, do not alter the river currents or the free flow of water in a river and also do not pose any danger. No objection has been raised to POWERGRID in regard to this practice. Since the system is functioning satisfactorily, POWERGRID do not propose to review this practice or to consult any agency on the safety measures in this regard.